

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180011

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 23806 ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN
BEIRUT LONDON MOSCOW USUN NEW YORK TELAVIV 10 SEPT

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 23806

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: WALDHEIM MISSION

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

1. QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS DE LA
BELLEISSIE TOLD EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 7 THAT ON BASIS OF REPORTING
FRENCH EMBASSIES AND CONTACTS WITH UN SECRETARIAT, FRENCH HAD
IMPRESSION THAT UNSYG HAD FOUND LITTLE FLEXIBILITY IN POSITIONS OF
VARIOUS PARTIES TO MIDDLE EAST DISPUTE. ARABS, NOTABLY EGYPTIANS,
REPORTEDLY TOLD WALDHEIM THAT THEY WERE PREPARED FOR NEGOTIATIONS
WITH ISRAELIS IN CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WITH PRESENCE
OF OUTSIDE POWERS, ACCORDING TO DE LA BELLEISSIE PRESUMABLY
GREAT POWERS. IN CONTRAST, ISRAELIS HAD OPPOSED
CONFERENCE IDEA BUT HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN
RHODES-TYPE INDIRECT NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. ON SUBSTANCE OF ISSUES, THERE WAS LITTLE MODIFICATION IN ESTABLISHED POSITIONS. WALDHEIM RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT EGYPTIANS PREPARED TO ACCEPT DEMILITARIZATION OF SINAI, AND MADAME MEIR REPORTEDLY TOLD HIM THAT IF SOMEONE COULD DEMONSTRATE HOW BOUNDARIES OTHER THAN THOSE NOW EXISTING COULD BE MADE "SECURE" FOR ISRAEL GOI WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER SUCH PROPOSAL. DE LA BELLEISSUE SAID THAT THIS FLEXIBILITY WAS MORE IN FORM THAN IN SUBSTANCE, AND MRS. MEIR APPARENTLY WAS INFLEXIBLE WITH REGARD TO GOLAN HEIGHTS AND JERUSALEM.

3. DE LA BELLEISSUE COMMENTED THAT PROGRESS UNLIKELY BEFORE ISRAELI ELECTIONS. GOF, HE ADDED WELCOMED PRESIDENT NIXON'S SEPTEMBER 5 PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT AND INTENTION OF USG TO GIVE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS HIGH PRIORITY.
STONE UNQUOTE RUSH

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